

Figure 3 shows two separate embodiments of this invention. Figure 3A shows the polynucleotides encoding gp209 antigenic peptide which are separated by a polynucleotide encoding 3 alanines. Figure 3B is the sequence of the 3' UTR of an α -globin gene that may be inserted into the construct to enhance stability of the transcribed mRNA. (SEQ ID NOS: 13-14).

Figure 4 is the sequence of a 9 copy recombinant polynucleotide. (SEQ ID NOS: 15-32).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- An example of a self-tissue antigen recognized in autoimmune disorders is the acetylcholine receptor (AChR) which is recognized in myasthenia gravis. The T lymphocyte response in these patients may be directed to additional epitopes on the AChR. Although the majority of T cell recognition sites are on the subunit, T cells also recognize epitopes in the other subunits. Indeed, T cells from patients have been shown to respond to more than 30 different AChR-derived peptides. Examples of AChR epitopes are the following (SEQ ID NOS: 1-6):

HM1: Y N L K W N Y N L K W N Y N L K W N	(SEQ ID NO:1)
HM2: P D D Y G G P D D Y G G P D D Y G G	(SEQ ID NO:2)
HM3: V K K I H I V K K I H I V K K I H I	(SEQ ID NO:3)
HM4: K W N P D D K W N P D D K W N P D D Y	(SEQ ID NO:4)
HM5: Y G G V K K Y G G V K K Y G G V K K	(SEQ ID NO:5)
HM6: W N P D D Y G G V K W N P D D Y G G V K	(SEQ ID NO:6)

REMARKS

No new matter is introduced by the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. Included with this Preliminary Amendment are Substitute Sheets 5 and 25 of the Specification.

In re: Shankara et al.

USSN: 09/928,213

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Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

No additional fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this communication. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 07-1074.

Respectfully submitted,

December 18, 2002

Date

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"Version with markings to show changes made"

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Figures 2A through 2C are flow charts schematically showing the amplification steps that may be used to construct a recombinant polynucleotide of this invention.

(SEQ ID NOS: 7-12)

Figure 3 shows two separate embodiments of this invention. Figure 3A shows the polynucleotides encoding gp209 antigenic peptide which are separated by a polynucleotide encoding 3 alanines. Figure 3B is the sequence of the 3' UTR of an α -globin gene that may be inserted into the construct to enhance stability of the transcribed mRNA. **(SEQ ID NOS: 13-14)**

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HM1: Y N L K W N Y N L K W N Y N L K W N **(SEQ ID NO:1)**

HM2: P D D Y G G P D D Y G G P D D Y G G **(SEQ ID NO:2)**

HM3: V K K I H I V K K I H I V K K I H I **(SEQ ID NO:3)**

HM4: K W N P D D K W N P D D K W N P D D Y **(SEQ ID NO:4)**

HM5: Y G G V K K Y G G V K K Y G G V K K **(SEQ ID NO:5)**

HM6: W N P D D Y G G V K W N P D D Y G G V K **(SEQ ID NO:6)**